

# The HUB

The Official Newsletter of American Fork City



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE: EMBRACING THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON



As we approach this festive time of year, I extend warm wishes to all of our American Fork City residents. This is a time of reflection, giving, and togetherness- a season that brings our community together in the spirit of goodwill.

It is heartwarming to witness the acts of giving, compassion, and support that define our community. In my position as Mayor, I'm grateful to have the opportunity to witness all the good things happening across our city each day. I encourage you to seek out those opportunities to embrace the spirit of Christmas and the holiday season, by reaching out to your neighbors, friends, and those in need.

This time of year, I reflect on a tradition that has defined my family's Christmas starting 25 years ago and that we've continued to this day. It all started when a generous family celebrated the season with a tradition inspired by the '12 Days of Christmas'. They gave us memorable,

and meaningful gifts each day, for twelve days in the month of December leading up to Christmas day. It wasn't about grand gifts or gestures but giving without expecting anything in return. Our family decided to embrace this tradition and give gifts to others each year.

The beauty lies in the simplicity of the act: Select a family or an individual in need over the holidays, choose special presents, secretly deliver them to the door, and anonymously spread a little holiday cheer. As our children have grown up and started families of their own, they have continued this tradition themselves, recognizing the joy it brought them growing up and the happiness it brought those receiving the gifts.

It's created a lot of memories like, one year we had a colleague in need we chose to receive the '12 Days of Christmas' tradition. Some of the gifts we shared were meat pies and socks, wanting to share warmth and food with him. With a giving heart he proceeded to share these gifts with coworkers, wanting to share the same feelings of happiness he received with others even though he was in need himself. It touched

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## Office Numbers

Administration .....	801-763-3000
Public Works.....	801-763-3060
Library .....	801-763-3070
Fitness Center.....	801-763-3080
Senior Center.....	801-763-3090

## Non-Emergency

Police .....	801-763-3020
Fire & Rescue.....	801-763-3045

## On-Call / After-Hour

Water/Pressurized .....	801-404-1253
Sewer/Storm Drain .....	801-404-7167
Streets .....	801-404-1255
Garbage .....	801-924-8500
Street Lights .....	801-814-4311



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my heart to see it.

Other gifts we have shared over the years included Christ centered gifts, blankets, artwork, and treats. For our family Christmastime is a time to focus on the birth of Jesus Christ. While not every aspect of our tradition has a religious element, it helps remind us of the spirit of giving and charity that connects us all. Our hope is that we can bring warmth and cheer to the recipients. A vivid memory I carry is one year we would leave the gift, and then hide, and the recipient would call out, "Thank you so much, we love you!" That connection is what it is all about.

As you exchange gifts, or gather with loved ones, remember those who may be experiencing challenges during this time. Simple gestures of kindness can make a world of difference. Whether it's volunteering or bringing donations to local charities, checking in on neighbors, or helping with community initiatives- your actions can cause a positive ripple effect in helping others.

May this Christmas, and holiday season, be a time of joy, warmth, and meaningful connection for you and your loved ones. Thank you for making American Fork City a wonderful place to call home. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

By Mayor Brad Frost

## Christmas Tree Drop-Off

Republic Services will be offering the free service of dumpsters exclusively for disposing of Christmas trees. These dumpsters will be located at the City's salt dome lot at 240 E 200 N from Jan 2nd to Jan 16th. The dumpsters will be accessible Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m.—6 p.m.

Only undecorated, real trees without lights, tinsel, flocking or attached stands will be accepted.

Curbside tree pickup is no longer available.



# AMERICAN FORK HISTORY: Christmas in American Fork

American Fork City has a rich tradition of celebrating the holiday season with decorations across and along Main Street. The city continues that tradition today with red tinsel decorated with wishes for Happy Holidays and Seasons Greetings across Main Street, and beautiful lofty pine trees sparkling with

Christmas lights in the park. In the air, there's a feeling of Christmas!

Don't miss visiting Robinson Park and seeing the decorations along Main Street this year as you enjoy the sparkle and the magic of the season.



Top Photo: American Fork 1960's looking West. Bottom Photo: American Fork 2010's looking East.



## Holiday Closures & Garbage Schedule

### CITY CLOSURES

City Administration Offices will be closed for Christmas on December 21st through the 25th and New Year's Day, January 1st, 2024.

The Library will close at 2 pm on December 22nd through December 26th and New Year's Day on January 1st, 2024.

The Fitness Center will be closed on December 25th for Christmas. The center will open later on New Year's Day at 6 am.

### GARBAGE SCHEDULE

Trash and recycling will be pushed back one day for everyone on the week of Christmas and the week of New Year's Day. See calendar for specific dates.

### GARBAGE SCHEDULE

December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

- Monday Dec. 25th - Christmas Day
- Monday Jan. 1st - New Year's Day
- Recycling & Waste
- Waste Only





## CHRISTMAS IN THE ROTUNDA

December 2	Timpanogos Singers @ 2pm
December 5	Timpanogos Chorale
December 7	Utah County Flute Choir
December 11	Timpanogos Ringers
December 13	Allante String Quartet
December 18	A Christmas Carol: A One-Man Show

All performances at 7:00 pm unless noted

  
**AMERICAN FORK  
LIBRARY**

## SERVICE RATES GO UP FOR 2024

### Wastewater Rate Increase (TSSD)

Timpanogos Special Service District (TSSD) provides wastewater treatment for the cities of Alpine, American Fork, Cedar Hills, Highland, Lehi and Pleasant Grove and Saratoga Springs, and portions of the cities of Draper, Eagle Mountain, and Vineyard. In September, members of the TSSD board approved a 40% increase to their rates to all the participating cities, effective January 1, 2024. The last fee increase adopted by TSSD was ten years ago, in 2014.

American Fork City Council will adopt new sewer rates on Dec 12, 2023 to cover the new TSSD rates charged to cities. Residents can expect to see the increase on their February bill for their January usage.

According to TSSD, the fee increase is required to meet ongoing operations, including financing for significant capital improvements. Due to future capital improvements, additional fee increases may be needed in coming years. The amounts of any such

increases will be evaluated each year and if an increase is needed TSSD will provide public notice and a public hearing. Residents are welcome to reach out to TSSD to learn more about the rate increase here: [www.timpssd.org](http://www.timpssd.org).

### Storm Drain Rate Increases (AFC)

American Fork City's Storm Drain system is different than the wastewater system. Where our wastewater system goes to TSSD, the city manages our own storm drain system. With increases to state and federal environmental regulations of storm drain management, American Fork City had to increase our rates to cover the additional regulations.

American Fork City approved these rate increases in 2021 to take effect Jan of 2023. Single-Unit Residential homes will be increasing from \$8.50 to \$10.50 a month. Multi-Unit Residential homes, and Commercial/Institutional locations will be increasing from \$6.69 to \$8.27 per month. Rates will not increase for 2025.

## American Fork Election Results

Another election year is done and unofficial General Election results have been released. Vote totals will be updated as results are released by the Utah County Elections Division. For more election results, visit [utahcounty.gov](http://utahcounty.gov). As of 11/27/2023 the results are as follows:

Clark Preston Taylor	3,046
Tim Holley	2,824
Ernie John	2,529
Kenneth W Sumsion	1,927
Jeff Shorter	1,760

City Council will adopt the final election numbers on Tuesday, December 5th at 4pm in the Administration Building. And on January 2nd, 2024 at noon, the elected City Council members will be officially sworn in at Historic City Hall.

## AF'S ANNUAL COMMUNITY SURVEY

What are your thoughts on American Fork City services, quality of life, and top issues in the city? Please tell us in our annual American Fork City Community Survey, available right now!

Gathering resident opinions is invaluable to us as we make decisions for the City. The survey is brief and should only take about 10 minutes to complete. Your responses **WILL NOT** be individually tracked.

The survey closes December 31. If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please contact us by email at: [info@americanfork.gov](mailto:info@americanfork.gov) or call 801-763-3000.

Take the survey at:  
[americanfork.gov/survey](http://americanfork.gov/survey)



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SERVING UTAH COUNTY SINCE 1946

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*holiday*  
**SCAVENGER HUNT**

**NOV 27 TO DEC 31**



**JOIN ON  
THE SCAVR  
APP TODAY!**

For more details, visit [americanforkchamber.org](http://americanforkchamber.org) or contact us at [chamber@americanfork.gov](mailto:chamber@americanfork.gov) ✨ Kristina (801) 232-4824 ✨ Josh (801) 472-7467



## December 2023 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Date & Time	Event & Location	Details
November 27 - December 31	Holiday Scavenger Hunt	Check out this month long Scavenger Hunt held by the Chamber of Commerce (page 3)
December 1 - 22	Library Mitten Tree Library Rotunda	Grab an ornament, purchase the item, and bring it back to the library to donate.
December 1; 7pm	"Christmas Jars" Author Jason F. Wright After-Hours Library Event	Please register at <a href="https://aflibrary.eventbrite.com">aflibrary.eventbrite.com</a> to attend and receive your own Christmas Jar.
December 2; 2pm	Christmas in the Rotunda Events start Timpanogos Singers	More events will be held throughout the month. See on page 3 for more details.
December 9	Call for Christmas Art(ages 3-17) Deadline	Have your art displayed at the Library Rotunda. Details and registration at <a href="https://TAFtix.com">TAFtix.com</a>
December 11- 16	Christmas Art Show Library Rotunda	Come see the art displayed in the Rotunda during normal library hours.
December 25	Christmas Day	Happy Holidays!
December 27 - 29; 11am - 3pm	Winter Break Drop-In activities at the Library	Holiday fun for children and teens



TIMPANOGOS Singers & Youth Choirs AND TIMPANOGOS ARTS FOUNDATION PRESENT

FEATURING Leaps & Bounds

# Gloria!

JOYFUL MUSIC TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON

December 9th, 2023  
7:00pm

VALENTINE THEATER

**TAFtix.com**

TIMPANOGOS ARTS FOUNDATION

PARC AMERICAN FORK



PARC HARRINGTON CENTER

# LIVING BETHLEHEM

and MAKERS MARKET

**DEC 4-8**  
4:00-9:00PM

**DEC 9**  
10:00AM-9:00PM

**FREE EVENT**

AMERICAN FORK AMPHITHEATER

[harringtoncenter.org](https://harringtoncenter.org)

**EXPERIENCE THE STREETS OF BETHLEHEM  
THE NIGHT JESUS WAS BORN THROUGH  
AN IMMERSIVE THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE**

Christmas village with vendors, Santa Claus & His sleigh, food, fire pits, Christmas music, games & activities for the entire family.



WASATCH MUSIC ALLIANCE PRESENTS

under the direction of John Miller & Randall Brady

**Mon, December 18, 2023**  
**7PM @ American Fork HS**

**TICKET PRICING**

FREE with suggested donations of \$5 per person, or \$15 per immediate family

with Special Guest **SANTA**

**PARC AMERICAN FORK**

# Christmas

CONCERT




# CHRISTMAS

with the **AMERICAN FORK SYMPHONY**  
and **TIMPANOGOS ARTS FOUNDATION**  
JOHN WRIGHT, CONDUCTOR

**11TH DEC** **7:00 PM**

FEATURING A SPECIAL VISITOR...

**AMERICAN FORK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

**TAFtix.com**

TIMPANOGOS ARTS FOUNDATION

PARC

ag

MBI MATTHEW BRADLEY